

REMARKS

In the January 24, 2006 Office Action, all of the claims stand rejected in view of prior art.

Status of Claims and Amendments

In response to the January 24, 2006 Office Action, Applicant has amended the claims as indicated above. Thus, claims 1-24 are pending, with claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 11, 13, 14, 16-19, 21 and 23 being the independent claims. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following comments.

Claim Objections

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1 and 11 are objected to for being duplicates of each other. Claim 1 recites:

1. A motor control method for controlling at least one of voltage and current applied to a motor from an inverter so as to suppress rotational speed variations of the motor which drives a periodic load, the method comprising the steps of:

- applying an alternating current power source to a converter to obtain a direct current power source;
- converting the direct current power source into a converted alternating current power source using the inverter;
- supplying the converted alternating current power source from the inverter to the motor;
- detecting at least one of an output voltage value and a command value of the inverter as a detection value, and
- controlling at least one of voltage and current of the inverter based upon the detection value so that one of the output voltage value and the command value of the inverter does not exceed a predetermined value.

Claim 11 recites:

11. A motor control method for controlling at least one of voltage and current applied to a motor from an inverter *for varying motor output torque* so as to suppress rotational speed variations of the motor which drives a periodic load, *wherein a converter is provided which can control a direct current voltage supplied to the inverter*, the method comprising the steps of:

applying an alternating current power source to the converter to obtain a direct current power source;
converting the direct current power source into a converted alternating current power source using the inverter;
supplying the converted alternating current power source from the inverter to the motor;
detecting at least one of an output voltage value and a command value of the inverter as a detection value, and
controlling at least one of voltage and the current of the inverter based upon the detection value so that one of the output voltage value and the command value of the inverter does not exceed a predetermined value.

The above italicized portions of claim 11 differ from claim 1. Therefore, claim 11 and claim 1 are not duplicates of each other. Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 8 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. In response, Applicant has amended claims 8 and 20 to clarify that a negative peak value of an input current does not exceed a predetermined value. Applicant believes that the claims now comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

On pages 2 and 7 of the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5, 6, 9-11, 13-15, 17, 18 and 21-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,646,411 (Hirono), and claims 4, 7, 12, 16 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,422,331 (Ochiai). Applicant has amended the claims to clearly define the present invention over the prior art.

In particular, the claims require applying an alternating current power source to a converter to obtain a direct current power source, converting the direct current power source into a converted alternating current power source using the inverter, and supplying the

converted alternating current power source from the inverter to the motor. This is *not* disclosed or suggested by Hirono or Ochiai or any other prior art of record. It is well settled under U.S. patent law that for a reference to anticipate a claim, the reference must disclose each and every element of the claim within the reference.

Hirono discloses a motor driven compressor 1 with a compressor 11 and a direct current motor 12. Referring to Figure 1 of Hirono, it can be seen that a DC battery 3 powers the direct current motor 12. Accordingly, Hirono does not teach applying an alternating current power source to a converter to obtain a direct current power source, converting the direct current power source into a converted alternating current power source using the inverter, and supplying the converted alternating current power source from the inverter to the motor.

Ochiai discloses a hybrid vehicle with a 12V battery 9 that is connected to a battery 3 through a converter 8. Referring to column 4, lines 65-67 of Ochiai, the converter 8 reduces a voltage of the battery 3 and supplies a reduced voltage to the 12V battery 9. Accordingly Ochiai does not teach applying an alternating current power source to a converter to obtain a direct current power source, converting the direct current power source into a converted alternating current power source using the inverter, and supplying the converted alternating current power source from the inverter to the motor.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims, as now amended, are not anticipated by the prior art of record. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Moreover, Applicant believes that the dependent claims are also allowable over the prior art of record in that they depend from their respective independent claim, and therefore are allowable for the reasons stated above. Also, the dependent claims are further allowable because they include additional limitations. Thus, Applicant believes that since the prior art

of record does not anticipate the independent claims, neither does the prior art anticipate the dependent claims.

Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections.

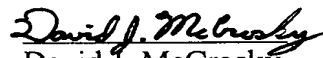
Prior Art Citation

In the Office Action, additional prior art references were made of record. Applicants believe that these references do not render the claimed invention obvious.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendment and comments, Applicant respectfully asserts that claims 1-24 are now in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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